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Avigdor Lieberman:
Architect of Armageddon?

MENAHEM KAHANA/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Powerful Israeli racist politician is an avid proponent of nuking Iran, ethnically cleansing Holy Land, expanding Israel's borders through war

By Michael Collins Piper

Most Americans have never heard of Avigdor Lieberman, but they need to know precisely who this dangerous and influential demagogue is, because he will be the Israeli official who defines Israel's war-mongering policy toward Iran.

As a high-level Israeli power broker, Lieberman may well be the one individual who has the very real capacity to spark the next world war. He is the Zionist state's chief tactician in the ongoing effort by Israel and its American lobby to force mothers and fathers in the United States to dispatch their sons and daughters into a war against Israel's perceived number one enemy: the Islamic Republic of Iran.

A veteran Israeli hate-monger, known for his angry racist rhetoric aimed at Christian Arabs and their Muslim brothers, Lieberman has been a fixture in Israeli politics for more than 20 years, in spite of — or perhaps because of — his alleged ties to Russian-based Jewish organized crime elements who maintain Israeli citizenship.

The rising popularity and political influence of Lieberman, Israel's new deputy prime minister, and its firstever cabinet-level "minister for strategic affairs," is not just a reflection of what some call "Israel's dark side," but rather, instead, represents the reality of opinion amongst a large segment of the population in Israel today.

A so-called "hard-liner" and "right winger," Lieberman has been referred to as "the Israeli Hitler," and, in fact, his views do reflect a form of "Jewish Fascism," a striking mirror image of the so-called "Islamic Fascists" about whom we hear so much in the controlled media in America today.

Lieberman is the key contact in Israel that Israel's well-heeled advocates in the United States are in liaison with in the carefully orchestrated push for the Bush administration, with the support of its ostensible "critics" in Congress, to attack Iran, even using nuclear weapons.

Through his influential positioning, Lieberman is coordinating Israel's American-based lobbying and propaganda groups — such as the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, the American Jewish Congress, the American Jewish Committee and the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) of B'nai B'rith, among others — in working to push America into more wars in the Middle East.

Lieberman remains highly regarded among not only his Israeli followers, but among American partisans of Israel, who have no reservations about this no-holds-barred bigot. His harsh rhetoric against Christian Palestinians and their Muslim brothers recalls the venomous outbursts of a former Israeli cabinet minister, Rehavam Ze-evi who once called Christians and Muslims "lice" and said they were like a "cancer" destroying the Jewish state.

▲ ISRAEL'S DREAM OF GREATER ISRAEL

Arising from the traditional "Greater Israel" school of thought, Lieberman dreams of the day when the Jewish state stretches from "the Nile to the Euphrates." In other words, Israel's borders will reach from inside the current borders of Egypt and eastward, to assume command of all of not only Lebanon, Syria and Jordan but also substantial portions of Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

The ongoing U.S. occupation of Iraq, following the U.S. offensive against that secular Arab republic — largely stimulated by pressure from the Israeli lobby in Washington — is perceived today by many in the Arab world (and in the Muslim world generally) to be a partial step toward fulfillment of the dream of Greater Israel. The destruction of Iran, followed by a U.S. occupation, would simply be another additional land grab on behalf of Israel's geopolitical ambitions.

Observers from all points of view on the political spectrum assert that Lieberman's alliance with the government of Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert, leader of the Kadima Party, has strengthened Lieberman and his own Yisrael Beiteinu Party. Although the English translation of the party's name — "Israel is Our Home" — sounds quaint and cozy, Lieberman's party calls for what is no less than the "ethnic cleansing" of the Christians and Muslims living in Israel.

Growing numbers of Lieberman's countrymen hail him for his raucous demands that Christian Arabs and Muslim Arabs living inside Israel or under Israeli control be "transferred."

In truth, what Lieberman and his followers are advocating is genocide, pure and simple, precisely as defined by the international Genocide Convention. Genocide isn't just murder, under the terms of the global convention. It also includes the forced transfer of ethnic populations. So while Lieberman and his co-religionists in Israel and around the globe are constantly bewailing genocidal policies against Jewish people, both real and imaginary, Lieberman has emerged as a much-beloved voice for many Israelis who want genocide to be practiced against the Arabs.

Although there are those in both Israel and the United States who put forth the theme that Lieberman is some sort of political aberration — that he represents a loud and fanatic but relatively small body of opinion in Israel — there are informed analysts who don't buy that theory. Instead, they say, Lieberman is simply saying loudly and without hesitation what many people in Israel and its satellite, America, and its are thinking, protests to the contrary notwithstanding.

A journalist specializing in media critique, Michael Collins Piper is the author of ***Final Judgment***, the controversial "underground bestseller" documenting the collaboration of Israeli intelligence in the assassination of John F. Kennedy. He is also the author of ***The High Priests of War***, ***The New Jerusalem***, ***The Judas Goats***, and ***Dirty Secrets***, all available from First Amendment Books and America First Books. He has lectured on suppressed topics in places as diverse as Malaysia, Japan, Canada, Russia and Abu Dhabi.

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